Housing Scheme for **EPF Members**

303. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have proposed a housing scheme for the members of Employees Provident Fund (EPF);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the scheme would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Central Board of Trustees (EPF), whjef! is a tri-partite body, at its 158th meeting held on 22.10.2002 has, in principle, approved launching of a housing scheme for EPF Subscribers. 'A Committee has been constituted consisting of representatives of employers, employees and senior officials of Employees Provident Fund Organisation under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Gopalan, former Union Labour Secretary. The Committee is studying the feasibility aspects aspects of the implementation of the Scheme. Since it is not an obligatory activity of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, inter-ministerial consultation and consultation with the social partners is required. In such circumstances, it is not possible to indicate the precise time-frame for implementation of the scheme though efforts are being made to launch the scheme at the earliest.

Unemployed Educated Youth

304. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) The number of unemployed educated youth all over the country in terms of qualification, state-wise;

(b) The annual growth rate of unemployment over the last three years; and

(c) Government's policy to tide over the problem of unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) State-wise and education level wise details of number of educated job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily